

XP-0986

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are pending and allowable as indicated in the Office Action. Claims 7 and 10 have been currently amended. Claims 14-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

No new subject matter has been added to the specification.

The Declaration was objected to as defective. The Applicants believe that this objection is improper since the originally filed Declaration was a 2-sided paper with the information about the second inventor, Richard Shih, provided on the back side (page 2). Copies, as mailed with the new application, of the 2 page Declaration, the Transmittal letter and postcard are attached.

Claims 23-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 14, 15, 18 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) in view of Landsman (5,764,381). Claims 14, 15 and 19-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(c) in view of Rolfe (6,633,024). Claims 14-16, 19, 20 and 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) in view of Reznichenko (6,504,137). Claims 17, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Landsman. These rejections are respectfully traversed in view of the amended claims.

No fees are due with this response. However, if an error has been made in the fee calculations, please charge any excess fees due and credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3377 under this general authorization.

It should be noted that the above arguments are directed towards certain patentable distinctions between the claims and the prior art cited. However, the patentable distinctions

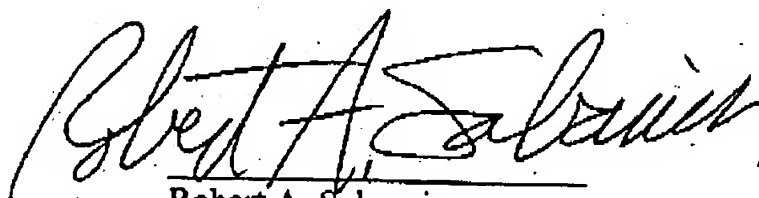
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between the pending claims and the prior art cited are not necessarily limited to those discussed above.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, it is respectfully submitted that each rejection of the Office Action has been addressed and overcome so that this application is now in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application and pass the application to issue. Should questions arise during examination, the Examiner is welcome to contact the applicant's attorney as listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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